

As a concerned, responsible, tax-paying, outraged, and fed-up American citizen, I demand that the FCC get off its lame excuses and fulfill its mandate to protect the public airwaves in the best interest of the PUBLIC - NOT the already-too-powerful media conglomerates.

Pappas Telecasting Companies' 'donation' of \$325,000 in airtime to Republican candidates in certain areas is yet another example of a powerful media group abusing its privileged access to the public airwaves.

Localism is not served when a corporate headquarters decides to provide one side in local elections a louder voice than others. During election season, local audiences should be offered genuine debate -- not disingenuous offers to "purchase" an equal amount of response time.

Pappas uses the public airwaves free of charge and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Pappas' actions are legally questionable and cast doubt on whether Pappas truly intends to serve the public interest. Their actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. Further, they show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than just a returned postcard. Let's not have a repeat of the unacceptable response given by Chairman Powell regarding the recent shenanigans of Sinclair Broadcasting.
Thank you.